

St. Matthews LUTHERAN CHURCH

4 Elizabeth Avenue
Esko, Minnesota 55733
(218) 879-3510



A family of believers grounded in, growing in & reaching out in Christ.

March 26th, 2023

THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHEWS

Today

8am Worship
9:15am Education Hour
9:30am "My Savior Lives"
Worship, KBJR Channel 6
10:30am Worship (also available
on Facebook Live)

Monday, March 27

NO LELP

Tuesday, March 28

NO LELP

8:25am-1pm FEET in Basement
9am Coffee with the Pastor via
Facebook Live
5:30-8:30pm Faith Girls in Youth
Room

Wednesday, March 29

NO LELP

NO Confirmation
5:30-6:30pm Soup Supper
5:30pm Women's Bible Study
6:30pm Lent Worship
7:15pm Choir Practice

Thursday, March 30

NO LELP

6pm Experience Recovery

Friday, March 31

NO LELP

Sunday, April 2

8am Worship with Communion
9:15am Education Hour
9:30am "My Savior Lives"
Worship, KBJR Channel 6
10:30am Worship with
Communion (also available on
Facebook Live)
12-3pm FLC in Use

Worship Services:

Sundays

@ 8am & 10:30am

Office Hours:

Monday 8AM-3PM

Tuesday 8AM-3PM

Wednesday 8AM-5PM

Thursday 8AM-2:30PM

Friday 8AM-3PM

Church Website:

www.stmatthewsesko.org

Office Phone:

(218) 879-3510

Church Email:

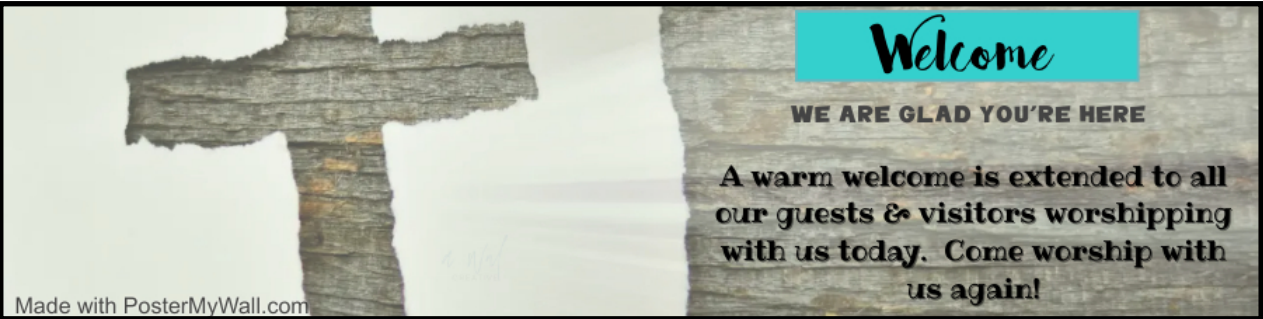
stmattsesko@aol.com

April Altar Guild:

Cindy Purcell

(218) 879-2769





Welcome

WE ARE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

A warm welcome is extended to all
our guests & visitors worshipping
with us today. Come worship with
us again!

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Prayer
List

We Pray for...

Tanner Stokes; Alice Kloepfer; Eleanore Norbie;
Paula Maki; Mellie Peach; Betty Arbour; Ron
Stanis; Dick Anderson; Christie Lund; Keith Jutila;
Bob Murphy; Verna Puline; Joe Kersting Sr; Noreen
Kersting; Dan Heikkinen; Keith Baxley; Kathy Aho;
Marilyn Murphy; Mary Liljegren; Jim Olesen

Homebound & Nursing Home

Margaret Colberg; Dorothy (Pixie) Kesti;
Deb Radosevich; Nancy Seppala; Nancy
Peterson; Dee Sprenger

****SERVING IN MARCH & APRIL****

Greeters:

March 26th

8am-Cheryl Wight & Ruth Janke
10:30am-Dave & Sheri Reuer

April 2nd

8am-Jason & Leah Sickmann
Family
10:30am-Jeff & Heidi Roemer
Family

April 9th

8am-Chris & Kristi Schultz
Family
10:30am-Keith & Reta Baxley

Ushers:

March 26th

8am-Matt & Katie Frank
10:30am-Travis & Laura
Hansen

March 29th

6:30pm-Dan & Beth
Heikkinen

April 2nd

8am-Tony & Beth Hanni
10:30am-Dave Haugen &
Bryan Hipp

Acolytes

March 26th

8am-Kennadi DeBondt
10:30am-Brennan Gerard

March 29th

6:30pm-Jorgen Herman

Communion Servers:

April 2nd

8am-Aaron Hansen
10:30am-Ross Peterson

April 6th

6:30pm-Jim Lovstad

April 9th

8am-Chris Nelson
10:30am-Tom Ruemmele

Church Operating Expenses Paid

Church Operating Expenses Paid:	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Total
Salaries	7,701	7,372	8,183	9,153	8,977	9,257	8,634	5, 621	59,277
Benefits	909	883	1,986	1,020	1,006	1,028	1,444	1,039	8,276
Debt Payments	6,883	6,883	6,883	6,883	6,883	6,883	6,883	6,883	48,181
District/Synod Support	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,002	2,583	2,583	17,085
Electricity	2,134	904	895	957	1,207	1,480	1,315	1,182	8,892
Christian Education	0	40	850	528	172	40	439	75	2,069
Church Property	2,720	2,220	4,655	1,584	2,608	1,477	1,597	4,310	16,861
Office	1,480	1,140	921	1,331	1,637	810	1,804	689	9,123
Worship	0	302	422	725	1,412	117	52	789	3,030
Youth	0	281	0	0	0	93	134	0	508
HRA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heating Fuel	0	3	255	486	1,131	2,193	2,717	2, 480	6,785
Repair and Maintenance	0	10,500	0	623	0	0	313	0	11,436
Outreach/Missions	154	0	0	0	40	0	195	0	389
Conferences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insurance	0	(181)	(326)	0	0	(74)	0	0	(581)
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	186	0	186
Total	24,481	32,847	27,224	25,790	27,573	25,306	28,296	25, 851	191,517
Budgeted Needs	38,165	38,165	38,165	38,165	38,165	38,165	38,165	38,165	267,155
Non-Budgeted:									
Landscaping	5000	0	4,881	0	0	0	0	0	9,881
Cemetery Lawn Mowing	175	350	175	0	175	0	0	0	875
Entryway Carpet	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,000	0	10,000

Members often ask how we are paying our bills when our offerings are often short of our budgeted needs. The short answer is that we need to budget for all expenses we are obligated to pay for. At the end of each month we will show how our offerings are actually being spent. Any surplus funds at the end of our fiscal year (June 30) will be discussed with the congregation at the annual budget meeting. The remaining mortgage is \$97,311 as of 2-28-23.



Stewardship Update

March 22, 2023

*3 out of 4 weeks

**5 Sunday Month

Giving Last Year: \$353,400

	Given	Budget	Over/(Under)
July	\$33,400	\$38,200	(\$4,800)
August	\$37,400	\$38,200	(\$800)**
September	\$35,800	\$38,200	(\$2,400)
October	\$39,900	\$38,200	\$1,700**
November	\$35,400	\$38,200	(\$2,800)
December	\$39,500	\$38,200	\$1,300
January	\$36,900	\$38,200	(\$1,300)**
February	\$32,300	\$38,200	(\$5,900)
March	\$25,800	\$28,600	(\$2,800)*
Total	\$316,400	\$334,200	(\$17,800)

Please send contributions c/o:
Mount Olive Lutheran Church
2012 East Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55812



LCMS Service of Worship



Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on KBJR Channel 6, Duluth

MY SAVIOR LIVES NORTHLAND LCMS SERVICE OF WORSHIP for the Duluth region televised by KBJR Channel 6. "MY SAVIOR LIVES NORTHLAND" is a locally produced, regionally recognized TV program with a message for the world. The service includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North District of our LCMS, along with a 30 minute remastered program called "This is the Life" from Lutheran Ministries (starting at 10:00 a.m.). My Savior Lives Northland is broadcast every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Central time on KBJR Channel 6 NBC and cable and satellite systems carrying these stations.

March 26th-Rev Matt Kohl April 2nd-Rev Rob Franck April 9th-Rev Brady Finnern



Operation Christmas Child

We will be collecting items monthly throughout the year to put in shoeboxes in November. **For the month of April we will be collecting small stuff animals, dolls and plastic animals, dinosaurs and action figures (items need to fit inside a shoebox).**

Donations can be put in the box marked "Operation Christmas Child" which is located under the mailboxes. Thanks for being so generous!

**We are bringing
back the**

Fellowship Treats



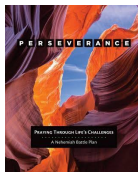
**If you are willing to bring in 3 dozen
treats for Sunday mornings, there is a
sign-up on the bulletin tower.**

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Girlfriends Bible Study

We all have it. That one thing that's keeping us from a fuller life. It could be a habit to break, a goal to accomplish or a lingering project to complete. What if we like Nehemiah persevered with single-minded focus & trusted God to accomplish something incredible?

Girlfriends is every Wednesday from 5:30-6:50pm. All women are welcome to join! Contact Kristi Hanson @ (218) 391-1976 if you want to purchase a book or you can also order one yourself.



Fellowship Treat Schedule

March 26-Beth Hanni & Sophie Rice
April 2-Chris Pirila
April 9 -Easter
April 16-Mary Liljegren
April 23-Marilyn Murphy
April 30-Danielle Lane

***Please bring 3 dozen treats by 2pm Friday if you would like Jen to get them ready for Sunday. Otherwise, there will be trays in the kitchen to put your treats on if needed.

ATTENTION ADULTS!

JOIN US FOR

BIBLE *Study*

SUNDAYS | 9:15 AM
in the Family Life Center

Sunday school is not just for kids. We are starting a new curriculum for all ages called Life-long Learning for Life-long Faith. Pastor John will be leading this study. This is for everyone, whether you have studied the Bible a great deal or if you are just starting out-this study is for you! See you there!

HELP NEEDED SUNDAY, MARCH 26TH

We will need to move things in preparation for the carpet installation. Please stay after the 2nd service to help move things if you are able.

rightnow MEDIA

A GIFT FROM OUR CHURCH

Free Access to +20,000 Bible Study Videos

Text the code SMLCESKO to 49775

Scan the QR code to
create your free
account and start
browsing.



android chromecast  iPhone & iPad **Roku**  **Apple TV** fireTV

CAN YOU HELP?

Pastor Marty & his family are on the hunt for a house to purchase in Esko or rent short-term. As many of you know, this is not an easy task. If anyone knows of property that will be coming for sale soon, please let Jen in the office know. Thanks for your help!!



Sunday Morning

Women's Bible Study

Join Kelly Eng at 9:15am in the pastor's office for a study on 1 Corinthians.

Author & speaker Jennie Allen walks into the messy lives of the Corinthians & takes us through Paul's words to the conflicted church. We'll see how the truth of the gospel & the spirit of God can empower us to choose to follow Jesus every day of our lives.





**Access the St. Matthew's
directory through the
mobile app!**

Available for Android and iPhone

Contact the church office or email SMLCdirectory2022@gmail.com for instructions on member access!

2023 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

**HARD COPIES OF THE
2023 ST. MATTHEWS
PICTORIAL DIRECTORY
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE
CHURCH OFFICE.**



Experience Recovery

For Every Hurt, Habit or Hang Up
Every Thursday at 6 pm in the
Fireside Room

Find the tools to help you break free from
unhelpful patterns, behaviors or thoughts
in this 12-week journey to freedom.



Please contact Deacon Johnny at
(218) 310-1385 with any questions.



**Support the youth program by
purchasing a Lake Superior Calendar in
the church office for \$10.**

ATTENTION

Leadership of the church is working hard to get our records updated in anticipation of getting a new pastor & switching to a new computer program. We ask that every family member fill out a member survey, which can be found on the welcome center. We have to report our membership statistics to the district annually. Secondly, we are asking everyone to also fill out a gifts & talents form. Each of us is equipped with unique gifts & talents & we would like to know how you would be willing to use them here at St. Matthews.

Please turn these in as soon as you are able. THANKS!

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

ATTENTION YOUTH GRADES 7-12

Upcoming Practices:

Thursday, March 23rd @6:30pm

Tuesday, April 4th @6:30pm

Please sign-up on the youth
bulletin board as to how you
would like to help!



Men's

Fishing

Retreat

May
19-21

Where: Lutheran Island Camp on East
Battle Lake, near Henning, MN

What: a weekend of fellowship, fishing,
friendship & fun

How: contact Jason Rice
@ (507) 829-8756

Cost: TBD-usually around \$130-\$150
• BONUS •

Saturday morning we will be having the
3rd annual Dr. Rev. Jeff Walther
Memorial Bass Tournament

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Youth

GRADES
7-12

LOCK IN

APRIL 21@ 7:30PM TO
APRIL 22@ 7AM

JOIN US FOR A
TOTALLY EPIC NIGHT
OF GAMES, SNACKS
& DEVOTIONS

Sound Board Operators Training

The A/V Ministry Group is looking for adults and youth to train in the operation of the sound board for worship services, weddings and funerals. The training session date(s) have not been set. We would like to establish a list of those we can call in the next few months to get the training scheduled. If interested, please contact Bob DeCaigny at 218-590-2124 or bobpegbeck@aol.com





Christus Chorus 2023 Tour

DR. DAVID L. MENNICKE, CONDUCTOR



"God So Loved the World"

Mark your calendars
Monday, April 3rd @6:30pm

Concordia St. Paul's Christus Chorus will be here
at St. Matthews to put on a concert

All are welcome to join us.
We will be having treats & refreshments after.

A free will offering will be collected.

EASTER BREAKFAST

FREE WILL
OFFERING

SUNDAY,
APRIL 9th
@ 9-10:30am

Proceeds support youth attending the
2025 Youth Gathering in New Orleans

Join us in the
Family Life Center
or take it To-Go!



Preschool News

Thank you to everyone at St. Matthews who purchased Butter Braids for the preschool's winter fundraiser. There were 219 items sold, which should result in a net profit of \$1,314. Last year, this fundraiser netted the preschool about \$1,000 so it's fabulous to do even better this year. Fundraiser monies are used to offset the reduced income due to this year's low enrollment numbers.

An open house is planned for **Tuesday, April 11**; this is an excellent time for prospective students/parents to meet the teachers and explore the classroom.

If you read the Pine Knot News, look for our display ad beginning with the March 17 issue. Also, we are looking for local businesses that are willing to display a poster(s) about the preschool; we have a pile of beautiful 8x10 posters that would rather see display time than sit on a dark shelf. Please share business names and the school will handle distribution.

Finally, as registration for fall begins, please keep LELP in your prayers. Our hope is to return enrollment numbers back to pre-COVID levels. This ministry of St. Matthews is another way to bring community members into the church and share the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. Thank you!

Amazon, unfortunately, decided to end its Smile program last month. Thank you to everyone who selected LELP as the charity of choice. LELP received about \$100 over the years through participation in the program.

****Little Esko Lutheran Preschool does not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, color, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship programs, and other school-administered programs.****



Come join us this year!

We offer:

- Faith-based
- School-readiness
- Music and Spanish
- Safe environment
- Fully licensed
- Affordable

lelpreschool@gmail.com
218.879.3510

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To: The Congregations of the Lake Superior Circuit,

I'm writing to you on behalf of the Pastors of the Lake Superior Circuit of the Minnesota North District. Recently, we were asked by several members from within our congregations to examine if there might be interest in opening a Lutheran School within the greater Duluth area.

We certainly recognize that our Lord, Jesus Christ instructed His disciples, "Let the children come to Me..." (Mark 10:14) Lutheran Schools have assisted many families in our church body in raising up their children to know Jesus. To that end, we believe that this is a prudent time for us to examine the level of interest from our congregations in supporting a Lutheran School in our area.

We are asking our members to fill out a survey to indicate their level of engagement with a potential Lutheran School in our area.

Depending on the results of these surveys, we hope to be able to have an informational meeting soon to discuss the possibilities of starting a Lutheran School in the greater Duluth Community.

Thank you in advance for your congregation's assistance!

Sincerely,
Rev. Matthew Kohl
Pastor-Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cloquet, MN
Circuit Visitor, Lake Superior Circuit

We Want Your Opinion

The Lake Superior LCMS Circuit is looking to start a **Lutheran elementary school** in the greater Duluth area.

Your feedback is valuable in determining our next steps.

Please fill out the short survey which can be found at
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HKLLKKT9>

or by scanning the QR code.

Responses must be recorded BEFORE April 1st.

Thank you very much for your time!

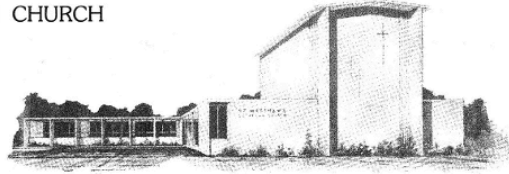


SCAN ME

ST. MATTHEWS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOUR ELIZABETH AVENUE † ESKO, MINNESOTA 55733

Telephone 218/879-3510



March 20, 2023

Dear Members of St. Matthews Church,

On behalf of the leadership at St. Matthews Church, I would like to cordially invite you to the Installation Service of our new pastor, Reverend Marty Mably. We rejoice that the Lord has led Pastor Marty to shepherd our congregation and we are looking forward to celebrating this occasion together as the family of God.

The Installation Service will be at St. Matthews Church on Saturday, May 6th at 4:00PM with a catered dinner to follow immediately after in the family life center. Please RSVP by emailing (joesuew@yahoo.com) or calling (218-348-6033) Sue Wischnewski by April 30th if you are planning on attending the dinner with your names and how many people will be eating.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to welcome Pastor Marty and his family to our congregation. I hope to see many of you there!

Blessings,
Dan Heikkinen
Church President

And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding. Jeremiah 3:15
